

WEST LAFAYETTE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
WEST LAFAYETTE CITY BUILDING
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

TIME: 5:00 pm, Wednesday, May 21, 2008

PLACE: Lower Level Conference Room

PRESENT:	Dave Buck	Chris Leroux
	Vicki Burch	Desiree Lord
	David Christian	Kumares Sinha
	David Downey	Boudewijn van Gelder
	Bernadette Farris	

VISITORS:	Beth Cook	Jan Myers
	Wendy Field	Karen O'Farrell
	Tom Logan	Natalie Villwock

Mr. Buck called the meeting to order. Chairman Sinha determined there was a quorum. Mr. Christian made a motion to approve the April minutes. Captain Leroux seconded and the motion passed. It was noted that Mr. Evan Apotheker has resigned his position on the commission. The mayor will be appointing a new District 1 representative.

The July and December meetings will remain as scheduled but will be cancelled if there are no agenda items.

OLD BUSINESS:

08-05 Pedestrian Crossings at Northwestern & Columbia, Grant & North, Grant & Wood Street Parking Garage

Mr. Buck stated that Mr. Grenard is continuing to investigate several pedestrian crossings. He will bring an update to the June meeting. There has been an additional citizen request to investigate pedestrians crossing at Grant Street and the Wood Street parking garage. Pedestrian, traffic and crash data will be gathered for this location as well.

08-06 Proposed Changes to City Code Sections 41.09 & 41.10

This item will be added to the June agenda. A draft version of the revised city code will be sent to the commission members before the June meeting.

05-03 Salisbury Street Safety Improvement Project

Chairman Sinha stated that he had received a citizen complaint that the lanes on Salisbury Street were too narrow, and the medians were difficult to navigate. Visitor Janet Myers stated that she is concerned that the islands are an obstruction to emergency vehicles. Mr. Buck stated that the medians are intermittent and there is room to go around them. The medians are also designed in such a way that vehicles may go over them, if necessary. The medians were designed to the safety standards for mountable and barrier curbs, and are not an obstruction to emergency vehicles.

Chairman Sinha stated that the idea of the project was to slow people down and make the road safer for vehicles and pedestrians. The lane widths and medians are measures put in place to encourage vehicles to slow down.

Ms. Burch asked if we were considering a roundabout at the intersection of Salisbury and Lindberg as part of the Salisbury Street project. Mr. Buck stated that Phase 2 of the Salisbury Street Safety Improvement Project does not include a roundabout due to the uncertain future of the Burtsfield School site.

08-07 Review Speed Limits on City's North End

Mr. Buck stated that the Engineer's Office is reviewing the speed limits on the city's newly annexed north end. Speed limit postings are also being studied. Additional transitioning signage will likely be added to Salisbury Street as the speeds transition from 30mph to 50mph. It is also likely Kalberer will be changed to one uniform speed limit. Right now, the speed limits range from 30mph to 40mph.

NEW BUSINESS:

08-08 Uneven Sidewalk at Chauncey Square

Janet Meyers stated there is an uneven sidewalk on South Street at the Chauncey Square development. Mr. Buck stated that he would have someone from his office take a look at it, and they would contact the developer.

08-09 Idling Buses

Chairman Sinha brought to the commission a report regarding the effects of idling diesel buses. Chairman Sinha stated that some cities have adopted anti-idling ordinances which limit the amount of time a vehicle can idle. He asked that the commission read the report, and we can revisit this topic at a future meeting.

08-10 State Road 26 Speed Limit

Mr. Buck stated that INDOT has proposed some changes to the speed limits on SR 26 (State Street). Mr. Buck distributed a drawing showing the current and proposed posted speed limits on SR 26. The only change proposed by INDOT is to reduce the speed from 30mph to 25mph on westbound SR 26 between the McDonalds and Chauncey Avenue. Mr. Buck made a motion recommending that the mayor approve the proposed INDOT speed limit change, Mr. Christian seconded and the motion passed.

NEXT MEETING: 5:00 pm, Wednesday, June 18, 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Buck, P.E.
City Engineer

DMB/wf